

RBS and RUS, USDA

§ 4280.101

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PART 4280—LOANS AND GRANTS

Subpart A [Reserved]

Subpart B—Renewable Energy Systems and Energy Efficiency Improvements Program

Sec.

- 4280.101 Purpose.
- 4280.102 General.
- 4280.103 Definitions.
- 4280.104 Exception authority.
- 4280.105 Appeals.
- 4280.106 Conflict of interest.
- 4280.107 Applicant eligibility.
- 4280.108 Project eligibility.

SECTION A. GRANTS

- 4280.109 Qualification for simplified applications.
- 4280.110 Grant funding.
- 4280.111 Application and documentation.
- 4280.112 Evaluation of grant applications.
- 4280.113 Insurance requirements.
- 4280.114 Laws that contain other compliance requirements.
- 4280.115 Construction planning and performing development.
- 4280.116 Grantee requirements.
- 4280.117 Servicing grants.
- 4280.118–4280.120 [Reserved]

SECTION B. GUARANTEED LOANS

- 4280.121 Borrower eligibility.
- 4280.122 Project eligibility.
- 4280.123 Guaranteed loan funding.
- 4280.124 Interest rates.
- 4280.125 Terms of loan.
- 4280.126 Guarantee/annual renewal fee percentages.
- 4280.127 [Reserved]
- 4280.128 Application and documentation.
- 4280.129 Evaluation of guaranteed loan applications.
- 4280.130 Eligible lenders.
- 4280.131 Lender's functions and responsibilities.
- 4280.132 Access to records.
- 4280.133 Conditions of guarantee.
- 4280.134 Sale or assignment of guaranteed loan.

- 4280.135 Participation.
- 4280.136 Minimum retention.
- 4280.137 Repurchase from holder.
- 4280.138 Replacement of document.
- 4280.139 Credit quality.
- 4280.140 Financial statements.
- 4280.141 Appraisals.
- 4280.142 Personal and corporate guarantees.
- 4280.143 Loan approval and obligation of funds.
- 4280.144 Transfer of lenders.
- 4280.145 Changes in borrower.
- 4280.146 Conditions precedent to issuance of Loan Note Guarantee.
- 4280.147 Issuance of the guarantee.
- 4280.148 Refusal to execute Loan Note Guarantee.
- 4280.149 Requirements after project construction.
- 4280.150 Insurance requirements.
- 4280.151 Laws that contain other compliance requirements.
- 4280.152 Servicing guaranteed loans.
- 4280.153 Substitution of lender.
- 4280.154 Default by borrower.
- 4280.155 Protective advances.
- 4280.156 Liquidation.
- 4280.157 Determination of loss and payment.
- 4280.158 Future recovery.
- 4280.159 Bankruptcy.
- 4280.160 Termination of guarantee.

SECTION C. DIRECT LOANS

- 4280.161 Direct loan process.
- 4280.162–4280.192 [Reserved]

SECTION D. COMBINED FUNDING

- 4280.193 Combined funding.
- 4280.194–4280.199 [Reserved]
- 4280.200 OMB control number.

APPENDIX A TO PART 4280—TECHNICAL REPORTS FOR PROJECTS WITH TOTAL ELIGIBLE PROJECT COSTS OF \$200,000 OR LESS

APPENDIX B TO PART 4280—TECHNICAL REPORTS FOR PROJECTS WITH TOTAL ELIGIBLE PROJECT COSTS OF GREATER THAN \$200,000

SOURCE: 70 FR 41303, July 18, 2005, unless otherwise noted.

Subpart A [Reserved]

Subpart B—Renewable Energy Systems and Energy Efficiency Improvements Program

§ 4280.101 Purpose.

(a) The purpose of this subpart is to provide financial assistance to agricultural producers and rural small businesses for the purpose of purchasing

§ 4280.102

and installing renewable energy systems and energy efficiency improvements in rural areas. Financial assistance to any single entity may be provided as a direct loan, guaranteed loan or grant, or a combination of a loan and grant. This subpart contains the procedures and requirements for providing such financial assistance.

(b) The Agency will allocate funds between the direct, guaranteed, and grant programs each year, including any other terms such as the transfer of funds between these allocations.

§ 4280.102 General.

(a) Sections 4280.103 through 4280.106 discuss definitions, exception authority, appeals, and conflict of interest, which are applicable to all of the funding programs under this subpart.

(b) Eligibility is discussed in terms of both applicants and projects. Section 4280.107 contains the eligibility requirements for applicants and § 4280.108 contains the eligibility requirements for projects.

(c) Section A, §§ 4280.109 through 4280.117, discusses grants. Section 4280.109 discusses the circumstances under which an applicant may qualify to submit a simplified application for a grant. Sections 4280.110 through 4280.114 address grant funding, grant application procedures, required documentation, the evaluation process, and post-grant Federal requirements for both the simplified and full application processes. Sections 4280.115 through 4280.117 address project planning, development, and completion as related to grant servicing.

(d) Section B, §§ 4280.121 through 4280.160, discusses guaranteed loans. Sections 4280.121 through 4280.126 discuss procedures and requirements for making and processing loans guaranteed by the Agency. Section 4280.128 addresses the application and documentation requirements, separating the requirements for loans over \$600,000 and for loans of \$600,000 or less. Section 4280.129 addresses the evaluation of guaranteed loan applications. Sections 4280.130 through 4280.160 provide guaranteed loan origination and servicing requirements. These requirements apply to lenders, holders, and other parties involved in making, guaran-

7 CFR Ch. XLII (1–1–06 Edition)

teeing, holding, servicing, or liquidating such loans.

(e) Section D presents the process by which the Agency will make direct loans.

(f) Section E presents the process by which the Agency will make combined loan and grant funding available.

(g) Appendix A contains the Technical Report requirements for projects with total eligible project costs of \$200,000 or less and Appendix B contains the Technical Report requirements for projects with total eligible project costs greater than \$200,000.

§ 4280.103 Definitions.

Terms used in this subpart are defined in either § 4279.2 of this chapter or in this section. If a term is defined in both § 4279.2 and this section, it will have, for purposes of this subpart only, the meaning given in this section.

Agency. The Rural Business-Cooperative Service or successor Agency assigned by the Secretary of Agriculture to administer the 9006 program. References to the National Office, Finance Office, State Office, or other Agency offices or officials should be read as prefaced by “Agency” or “Rural Development” as applicable.

Agricultural producer. An individual or entity directly engaged in the production of agricultural products, including crops (including farming); livestock (including ranching); forestry products; hydroponics; nursery stock; or aquaculture, whereby 50 percent or greater of their gross income is derived from the operations.

Anaerobic digester project. A renewable energy system that uses animal waste and other organic substrates to produce thermal or electrical energy via anaerobic digestion.

Annual receipts. The total income or gross income (sole proprietorship) plus cost of goods sold.

Applicant. The agricultural producer or rural small business that is seeking a grant, guaranteed loan, or direct loan, or a combination of a grant and loan, under this subpart.

Assignment guarantee agreement (Form RD 4279–6) or successor form. A signed agreement among the Agency, the lender, and the holder containing the